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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/507,436	01/25/2005	Juha Maijala	METSO-20	8543
36528 7590 04/10/2008 STIENNON & STIENNON 612 W. MAIN ST., SUITE 201 P.O. BOX 1667 MADISON, WI 53701-1667				
EXAMINER				
KRUEER, KEVIN R				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1794				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/10/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/507,436

Applicant(s)

MAIJALA ET AL.

Examiner

KEVIN R. KRUEER

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on January 4, 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 44-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 September 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/4/08
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 44-47 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on July 9, 2007.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 1/4/2008 has been fully considered. Enclosed herein is an initialed copy of said PTO-1449.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 20-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0982120A1 (herein referred to as Bando).

Bando teaches a method for coating a surface of a continuous paper or board web formed of papermaking fibers (FIG 3 and 0082), with a dry coating powder (abstract), the method comprising the steps of: moving the continuous paper or board web between electrodes which are at different electrical potentials (0104); applying the dry coating powder on to a first surface of the continuous paper or board web by utilizing the difference in the electric potential (0081). The dry coating powder may be

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formed by freeze-drying. (0043) and has an average particle size of 1-15 micrometers (0043). The polymeric binder material has a glass transition temperature of 20° C to about 100° C (0034) and has a moisture content of less than 15% (inherent). The dry coating powder is pre-charged (0104). At least one additional layer is formed on the first coated surface by a dry surface treatment process (abstract).

Bando teaches the coating may comprise up to 60wt% inorganic coloring filler (0041) and up to 50wt% filler with a particles size of 1-5um (0058-0059). Thus, it would have been obvious to make a dry coating powder comprising 70-99% inorganic material and 1-30% polymeric binder material in order to obtain a coating with the desired coloring and properties. Said coating is herein understood to be "homogeneous" because the components of said coating are taught to be mixed together. Mixing is herein understood to imply homogenous compositions which will result in homogenous coatings.

Bando does not teach the continuous paper or board web is caused to travel at a speed of 1,200 to 2,500 m/min. However, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to vary the line speed of said paper to ensure quality control and productivity.

Bando does not teach simultaneously or sequentially applying a coating to both sides of the paper substrate. However, it would have been obvious to apply a coating to the backside of the paper substrate (either sequentially or simultaneously) in order to provide the substrate with image receiving capabilities on both sides thereof.

Bando does not teach passing the coating through a nip formed by a hot hard roll and a moving earthing member and subjecting the dry coating powder on the web to a

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temperature of 80-350°C, a linear nip load of 25-450 kN/m and a nip dwell time of 0.1-100 ms.. However, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to pass the coating of Bando through said nip in order to smooth the coating and obtain uniformity.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed January 4, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the claims now require the coating to be homogenous and that the coating of Bando fails to meet said limitation because it comprises "smaller particles placed between bigger particles." Said argument is not persuasive because there is nothing inherently inconsistent with the cited section of Bando and the definition of "homogeneous." Specifically, homogeneous requires the coating to be "of the same kind or nature." The coating of Bando meets said limitation because the components of said coating are mixed together and then the coating is applied to the entire surface of the substrate. Thus, the coating across the substrate is "the same kind or nature." Furthermore, since the components are "mixed" together, the coating composition is understood to be homogenous. Nothing in the claims or the definition of "homogenous" excludes such a coating.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN R. KRUEER whose telephone number is (571)272-1510. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

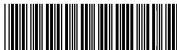
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kevin R Krue/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794

Application Number**Application/Control No.**

10/507,436

Examiner

KEVIN R. KRUER

**Applicant(s)/Patent under
Reexamination**

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